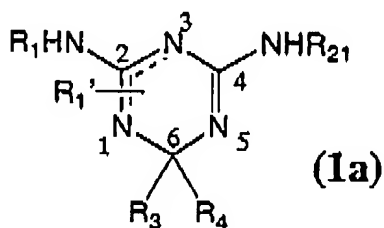


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-36. (Cancelled)

37. (New) A dihydrotriazine compound represented by the formula (1a):



wherein

R₁ is (i) a phenyl group, (ii) a benzyl or 2-phenylethyl group which is optionally substituted by methyl or methoxy, (iii) a quinolyl group or (iv) a cyclohexylmethyl group; R₂₁ is n-octyl, n-nonyl or n-decyl; R₃ and R₄ are each methyl; and R₁' is a hydrogen atom attached to the nitrogen atom at position 1 or 3 of the dihydrotriazine ring, or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

38. (New) The dihydrotriazine compound according to claim 37, wherein R₁ is (i) a phenyl group or (ii) a benzyl or 2-phenylethyl group which is optionally substituted by methyl or methoxy, or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

39. (New) The dihydrotriazine compound according to claim 37, which is 4-octylamino-3,6-dihydro-6,6-dimethyl-2-(4'-methylbenzylamino)-1,3,5-triazine, or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

40. (New) The dihydrotriazine compound according to claim 37, which is 4-octylamino-2-cyclohexylmethylamino-3,6-dihydro-6,6-dimethyl-1,3,5-triazine or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof.

41. (New) A method for sterilizing/disinfecting, which comprises applying externally an effective amount of the dihydrotriazine compound as defined in claim 37, or a tautomer thereof or a salt thereof, to a wound site, a burn site or a bedsore site, or an operation site before and after operation, a hand or an arm of a medical employee, or sterilizing or disinfecting medical equipment or a medical environment in need of sterilization/disinfection.

42. (New) A method of preparation of an external bactericidal/disinfectant agent, which comprises mixing the dihydrotriazine compound represented by the formula (Ia) as defined in claim 37, or a tautomer thereof or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof together with a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.